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# Proposed Four-Year Engineering Technology Project

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*News from*

**THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON  
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DAYTON, Ohio, July 15, 1969 --- Funded by a grant of \$68,000 from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation of New York City, 10 high school graduates from disadvantaged areas in Dayton and 25 mathematics and science teachers and counselors from those schools will benefit from a proposed four-year engineering technology project planned by the director and faculty of the Technical Institute at the University of Dayton.

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, established in 1934, is a general purpose philanthropic foundation with interests in the broad areas of science education and social problems. Assets at the close of 1968 were \$329,499,475 at market value.

Announcement of the educational experience, which will lead to an associate degree in engineering technology for the students, was made in New York today by Mr. Arthur L. Singer Jr., Vice President of the Foundation.

The program starts next January when counselors and teachers will attend a 15-session institute on consecutive Saturday mornings. The students will enter the University in September, 1970.

The 15-week institute, first phase of the project, will be conducted to improve the content of engineering-related courses within high schools of the disadvantaged areas and to provide high school teachers and counselors with information about engineering technology as a career for their students.

"The content of the institute," says James L. McGraw, Director of the Technical Institute, "would include instruction in selected fundamental techniques of engineering technology and application of these techniques to some typical problems encountered by engineering technicians. Participants would be provided with materials for use in their own classrooms. This would encourage teachers to incorporate technical examples in their own teaching to demonstrate practical engineering-related uses to which knowledge can be applied.

"The institute would also meet our second objective by providing some first hand experience which counselors and teachers could use when advising students on career planning," Mr. McGraw continued. "It is our contention that guidance based upon personal experience is superior to that based upon conventional guidance literature. The students who come in contact with these teachers and counselors would be more likely to develop an interest in a career in engineering technology because of a greater understanding of what an engineering technician does."

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Mr. McGraw added that since the institute represented an effort over and above the normal duties the participants each would be given a stipend of \$25 per session, or \$375 for the 15 weeks. The total budget for this phase of the project, including staff salaries, is \$19,375.

The second phase of the program, another effort at the University of Dayton to afford higher education for students who couldn't otherwise achieve this goal, is a program of scholarship aid for disadvantaged students in engineering technology. The financial grant will take the form of tuition and fees. Special counseling will be a part of the program and tutoring by qualified upper level students will be provided.

Counseling would help determine the rate at which the student would advance toward a degree, and the type of engineering technology--chemical , electronic, mechanical or industrial--he would pursue.

Mr. Curtis Hicks, Director of Human Relations at the University, would assist in the selection of the students and Mr. James Hoover, Director of the Office of Student Aid and Scholarship, would handle the financial arrangements for each.

In its general announcement of grants totalling \$870,246 to technical institutes throughout the country, The Sloan Foundation pointed to the need for technicians now and in the future. The news release quoted from a report issued a year ago by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, indicating that the projected need for technicians from 1963 through 1975 is around "1,000,000 new technicians in engineering and the physical and biological sciences."

The Sloan grants range from \$25,000 to \$75,000 with awards being given across the country from Boston, Mass., to Inglewood, California, to Melbourne, Florida. Another Ohio school, Ohio College of Applied Science, Cincinnati, received \$69,340.